Technological upgradation of Haffkines Institute for Training, etc.

794. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any plans have been drawn up for technological upgradation and modernisation of the Haffkines Institute for Research and Training and the Haffkine Bio-pharmaceutical Corporation, Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when these plans are expected to be implemented ; and

(c) the details of the new varieties of vaccines, if any, developed and put to use by the said institution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Meningitis in Rajasthan

795. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that meningitis continues to claim human lives in Rajasthan ; and

(b) if so, what steps the Central Government have taken to help the State Government in curbing the spread of this disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India assisted the State health authorities in the investigation of the Focal out break of Meningitis and confirmation of diagnosis. Recently, the Meningitis situation in the entire country including Rajasthan was reviewed. An early response mechanism has been worked out. The State Government has been requested to initiate action on that line. 2000 doses of Meningitis vaccine were supplied to Rajasthan during 1988 and another 1000 doses during 1989.

Introduction of S.T.D. locking facility

796. SHRI ASHOK NATH VRMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Telephone have introduced a new system of locking the STD facility, by dialling special code numbers in Electronic Exchanges for such subscribers who have surrendered/discontined their STD facility and are not using the same for several years ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of the authorities to be approached for restoration of this said newly introduced STD facility ; and

(d) whether any additional charges for this facility have been pres-